

# HOW-NI-KAN

## PEOPLE OF THE FIRE

Vol. 21, No. 7

Citizen Potawatomi Nation

July 1999



Tribal Tradition Across The Generations: Left, George Benton Melot, Lubbock, Texas; Right, John Bishop, Englewood, Colorado



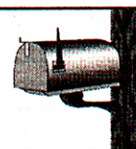
**CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION**  
**HERITAGE FESTIVAL - 1999**





# TRIBAL TRACTS

## From Our Mailbox



### Father, son share love of baseball

Dear HowNiKan,

We enjoyed the article about the oldest living Citizen Potawatomi and baseball, and thought you may be interested in the latest generations and baseball. Keep up the good work.

Sincerely yours,

George Fletcher

Zachary Fletcher

#### BASEBALL

By George & Zachary Fletcher

If I listen hard enough, I can hear the essence of baseball. I hear it through my eight-year-old son. We play together on the weekends, from 10 to 12 in the morning, with other fathers and sons at Fireman's Field behind Zachary's grade school. Baseball is the game fathers and sons play as equals, batting, catching, throwing; everyone plays their best.

Before each game, sides are chosen; fathers and sons come as a package, both on the same team, one batting after the other. Baseball generously allows parent and child to share with each other. Something within me is completed when he catches a ground ball, just as we had practiced together in the back yard, and

throws it to first base. Baseball allows him to try on my experience, to test what works and what doesn't.

It's the top of the last inning, we're in the field, and the other team has just gone ahead; it's the first game we had been winning. With his arms drooping, his back bent forward from the waist, his shoulders rounded, and a grimace on his face — the end-of-the-line, total-melt-down posture — Zachary, refusing to continue, approaches me on the pitcher's mound and through gritted teeth asks, "Why do we always lose?"

No answer would suffice at that moment, not even the standard "we're playing for the fun of playing, winning isn't everything." Just the father-to-son, player-to-player admonition that if he doesn't get back to his position at shortstop and play with some spirit, we would lose for sure. There it was, just like that, one of life's most important lessons to be learned: the spider building its web over and over, "quitters never win," "it ain't over 'til it's over," the fat lady.

Before throwing the next pitch, I turn toward our recalcitrant, seething shortstop, wearing his favorite No.2 Yankees shirt, and ask, "Did you see Jeter give up in the game we saw yesterday, even though the Yankees lost?" The batter flied out; it was now our last turn at bat. It was up to baseball to demonstrate one of life's greatest lessons.

With total determination, I hit the ball the best I could and got on base. Zachary was up next. In spite of his tremendous dejection, disappointment and anger, the spirit of the game triumphed; he got a hit, moved me to second, and made it to first base. Subsequently, we were both batted

in, and as I stood at the plate, giving him a double high five and watching his face when he crossed home with the winning run, a deep inner feeling of fulfillment overwhelmed me. What more could I ask?

#### BASEBALL

By Zachary Fletcher

(Poetry Assignment, Third Grade)

It's the last inning, it's always the same.

They hit a home run; we're losing the game.

The next ball was hit straight and hard.

Our right fielder caught it by running a yard.

"Look," said the shortstop, "we got one out.

"We're almost winning," said the pitcher with a shout.

He pitches strike three. "You're out!" yells the ump.

"I think we might win," said the pitcher with a jump.

The next batter also struck out.

The crowd let out a big shout.

Our batter got ready, the pitch came around.

He hit a tough grounder that broke the mound!

Batter up! Another pitch came through.

"We hit a home run, now we have 2!"

"Come on, pitch a strike,"

Said the catcher to the pitcher named Mike.

It was the last pitch, we hit a home run.

This is exciting, it's the first game we've won!

It was a lot of work winning this game!

## HOW-NI-KAN

PEOPLE OF THE FIRE

The HowNiKan is published by the Business Committee of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation with offices at 1601 Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, Oklahoma 74801.

The HowNiKan is mailed free to enrolled tribal members. Subscriptions to non-members are available for \$10 annually in the United States and \$12 for foreign countries.

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All correspondence should be directed to HowNiKan, 1601 Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK. 74801. Address changes should be sent to Potawatomi Tribal Rolls, 1601 Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK 74801.

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Vice Chairman - Linda Capps  
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Committeeman - Hilton Melot  
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## Walking on

Evelyn P. Paxton

Evelyn P. Paxton, 80, of Oklahoma City, passed away Wednesday, June 16, 1999, at Southwest Medical Center in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. She was born February 19, 1919 in Shawnee, Oklahoma. Evelyn was the granddaughter of Louis and Rosetta Trombla and daughter of allottee Nicholas Trombla. She was married to Charles L. Paxton who passed away in 1984.

She is survived by two sons, Clark Paxton and wife Betty, Newcastle, OK, and Charles Ronald Paxton, Oklahoma City, OK; a daughter Joy Paxton of Suisun City, California; a brother: Woodrow Trombla and wife Marie, Oklahoma City, OK; sister-in-law Alma Jay Trombla, Harrah, OK; 7 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren and many nieces, nephews, and other loving relatives and friends.

Funeral services were held Friday June 18, 1999, at the Little Chapel of Roses in Resthaven Memorial Gardens in South Oklahoma City. Arrangements were by Wilson-Little Funeral Home in Purcell.

Lorraine M. Lewis

Lorraine M. Lewis passed away on June 6, 1999 at the age of 80, in Macomb, Illinois. Lorraine was born in 1918 to Irene Calluette Nourie and Eugene Nourie. Lorraine was a descendant of the long line of Bourassas. She kept rather meticulous records of her tribal heritage and was also noted for her careful voting in tribal elections.

Direct survivors include a daughter, Sandra Walker of Milo, Maine; a son, Michael Henry Hequet of Jacksonville, Illinois, and his wife, Diane; a sister, Geraldine Chayer, of Pomona, CA; several grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren, Lane Mehr of Dallas and Keelan Douglas McKernan of Los Angeles.

On the day of her passing, Lorraine was given the name: White-Butterfly-Wind. So, hear ye now and attend: the Tribal Roll number 11880 has been retired in to the Archives and will remain there forever. We all wish White-Butterfly-Wind well in her new life as a Free Spirit in the Land of the Great Spirit.

## OSU graduate grateful for help

Dear Business Committee,

I just wanted to write you to say, "Thanks, for all of the support that you have given me over these last five years."

I just graduated with Honors from Oklahoma State University with my MBA. At present, I am in the stages of interviewing for some opportunities in the financial sector.

As the tuition costs continued to rise over my five years, the financial support that you provided was extremely helpful. Your efforts give so many students the opportunity to advance their education; and I know it is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Amanda Oakes

2825 Lexington Road, Box 8-1038

Louisville, KY 40280



# First Potawatomi Heritage Festival a 'huge success'

(Shawnee, OK) – In larger numbers than expected, tribal members made the trip back to Shawnee, Oklahoma for the initial Citizen Potawatomi Nation Heritage Festival. "The overwhelming response made this a very positive event for everyone involved – and a huge success," said John 'Rocky' Barrett, Potawatomi Chairman.

Potawatomi leaders put attendance at between 2,500 and 3,000 tribal members and employees, and their family members. "That is many more Potawatomi than have visited the reservation and the nation's service programs and business enterprises in anyone's memory," Barrett said.

The Festival replaced the intertribal pow wow the Potawatomi Nation had hosted for the past 25 years. "As a replacement for the pow wow, the Festival exceeded our expectations," said Linda Capps, Potawatomi Nation Vice Chairman. "We are trying to establish Potawatomi traditions. Seeing hundreds of Potawatomis participating in Saturday night's pow wow dance demonstrated clearly that this is the right direction."

With instruction from former Miss Indian Oklahoma Leslie Barichello Deer, a member of the American Indian Dance Theater troupe, several dozen tribal members spent Saturday afternoon learning pow wow dance steps. Potawatomi tribal members and their guests pow wowed until nearly 12:30 a.m. Sunday, enjoying a tremendously good time to the drumming and singing of Rough Arrow.

Under the direction of Janet Draper, CPN Indian Child Welfare Program Director, tribal employees produced 300 red shawls and 300 sashes, split evenly between blue and red.

The shawls and sashes were available for tribal members and their family members to wear during their time on the dance grounds on Saturday night. The shawls and sashes were heavily used.

And, as expected, almost all made their way back. "The shawls and sashes have been folded and stored, ready to use again next year," Draper said. "Our job of replenishing the shawl and sash supply will be minor because Citizen Potawatomi tribal members did such a good job returning them after the Festival."

Draper passed along her thanks and appreciation to the many employees who assisted in preparing the shawls and sashes. "I especially want to thank Esther Lowden and Ginger Phillips," Draper said. "They offered advice and help in ordering the material and fringe; and they sewed for endless hours. I could not have completed this project without their help!"

There was a raft of fun activities and competitions for tribal members and relatives to participate in and enjoy. For most who took part, it was the first time they had played Indian hand games. That was no deterrent to the fun. With Rough Arrow drumming, more than 100 Festival

**Grand  
Entry At  
The  
Saturday  
Night  
Potawatomi  
Pow Wow**



participants competed until late Friday night. The joy of competition and of learning a new element of their heritage was evident in the competitors' faces and gestures.

While the hand games were underway, another large group of festival-goers was tackling the Potawatomi Nation's FireLake Golf Course under the nearly full moon. "The night golf tournament, which began at 11:00 p.m., was a tremendous success," said Mike Wood, a tribal member and FireLake Course director.

Wood said that the glow-in-the-dark necklaces, golf balls, and flagsticks and the flashlights that golfers carried made for a most interesting sight. "There was constant laughter; you could easily tell that everyone on the course was having a blast," Wood said.

"As a tribal member and an employee of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation," Wood said, "I would personally like to thank everyone for a job well done during the Festival. The Festival was a huge success. It will only grow and get better."

According to Wood, forty-five people played in the Night Golf tournament. Twenty-one of these players were Citizen Potawatomi members. Seventy-six golfers participated in the Saturday Scramble. Thirty-nine of these players were tribal members.

"We had a variety of players at all levels of playing ability," Wood said. "We had women, men, young and old. Everyone couldn't say enough about how much fun they were having."

Wood pointed out that, at the golf tournaments at the past seven pow wows, no more than 15 to 20 tribal members had played golf during the pow wows' three-day run. "This year, in two days, sixty tribal members played golf at FireLake Course," Wood said. "I would say that that is a good change!"

While not necessarily an Indian tradition, a Country-and-Western dance was hugely popular. "The dance floor was always full and there were many couples

who danced all, or nearly all, of the numbers," Chairman Barrett said.

Other competitions during the jam-packed weekend included: three-on-three basketball, volleyball, checkers, dominoes, Indian Fry Bread cooking, horseshoes, and bowling. The Nation also awarded a prize to the Best Indian Car.

The future of the Potawatomi Nation was not ignored. Youngsters had a wealth of activities available. There was a "Kiddie Land" with a pony ride and other activities. The swimming pool at the tribal headquarters building was open for children all weekend.

Youngsters competed in a dance contest and a Karaoke Singing contest. They enjoyed other fun and games, including an egg-and-spoon race and other contests.

The Festival weekend also featured a more contemplative, spiritual side. There were classes in Potawatomi language, culture and arts and crafts. Sunday featured a church service and a trip for several dozen tribal members back to the Nation's Oklahoma roots at the Sacred Heart Mission near Konawa.

Dozens of tribal members availed themselves of the opportunity to have Tribal Rolls Department employees assist with genealogical research. The Tribal Archaeologist offered maps of the locations of lands allotted to individual Potawatomis in the late 1800's.

The weekend's informal theme was "Family, Fun & Fellowship." Nothing exemplified that better than the reunions of eight founding Citizen Potawatomi Nation families. The Nation provided tents on the pow wow grounds "midway" for the reunions. Well-attended, the reunions were a very popular part of the weekend.

Some 40 families made up the Potawatomi Nation at the time of its move from the Mayetta, Kansas area to what is now Pottawatomie County, Oklahoma. The Nation will host reunions for eight of those families each year, allowing each family to have a reunion every five years.

"Again, seeing the large turnout and experiencing the joy that tribal members felt all weekend long are ample evidence that the Festival is the right way to go," Chairman Barrett said.

## CPN employee leads Shawnee BPW

Claudie Bailey, a Citizen Potawatomi Nation employee and a Shawnee resident, has been installed as president of the Shawnee Business and Professional Women's Club. The installation was part of a ceremony held in the Derryberry Room of First National Bank, owned by the Potawatomi Nation.

Ethlene Houck, past president, installed the new president. Other officers who were installed are Barbara White, treasurer; Karen Mitchell, corresponding and recording secretary; and, Houck, parliamentarian.

Jerry Jones, Oklahoma Business and Professional Women district nine director, was the guest speaker. Jones installed the slate of new officers.

Each officer repeated a portion of the federation pledge.

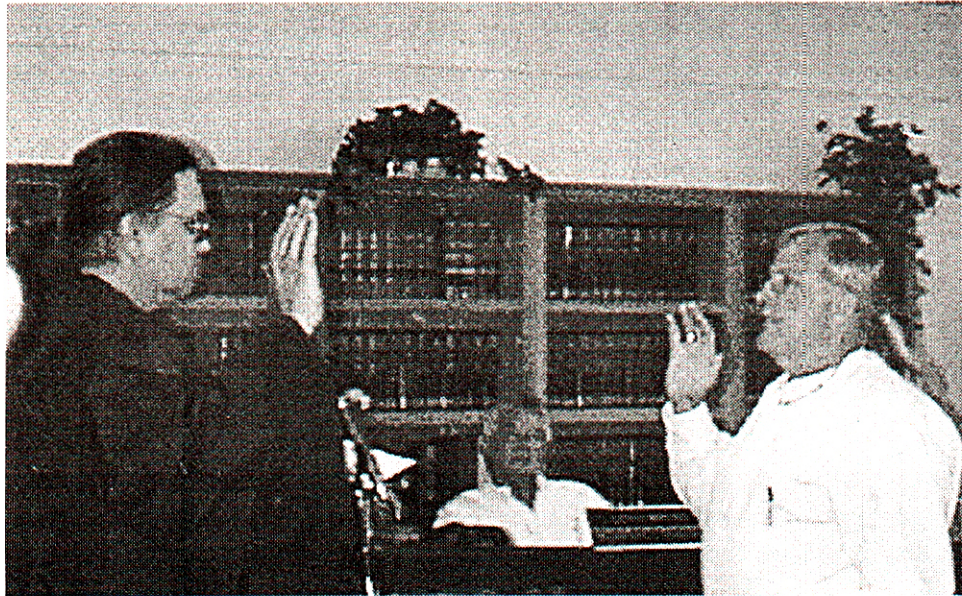
Bailey is an accountant for the CPN. She is a graduate of Varnum, Oklahoma High School, East Central State University in Ada, Oklahoma, and East Texas Baptist University at Marshall, Texas.

Bailey joined Business and Professional Women in 1978 in Texas. She has been a member of the Shawnee B&PW chapter since 1991. She held the office of treasurer for the chapter for the past two years.

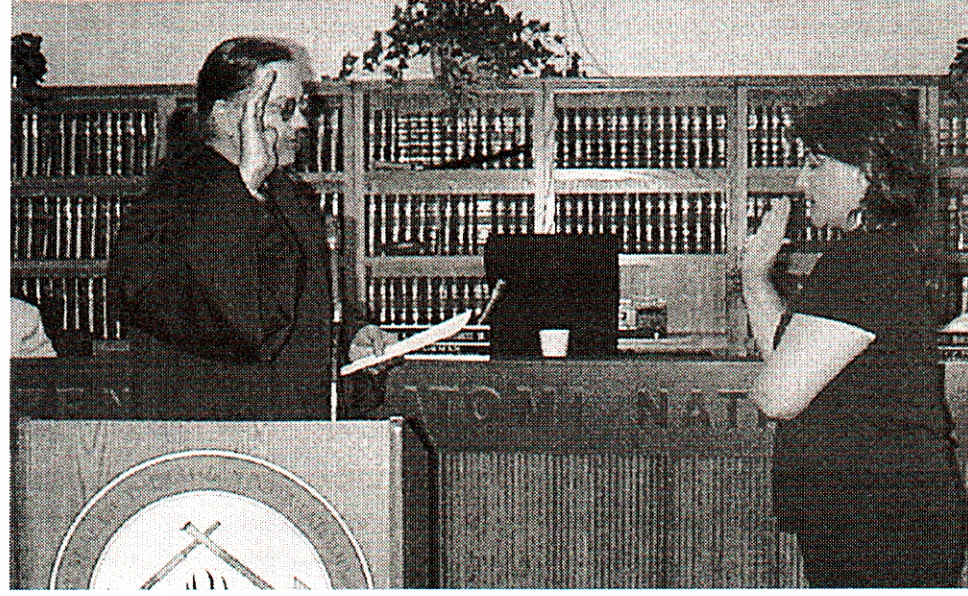




# HERITAGE FESTIVAL - JUNE, 1999



Judge William G. Rice Swears Hilton Melot In For Another Term on The Business Committee As Gene Bruno Watches



Judge Rice Swears In Teresa Vieux After Her Re-Election To The Grievance Committee

## Melot, Vieux re-elected; council hears reports

By MICHAEL DODSON

Meeting for their annual General Council, Citizen Potawatomi Nation members have certified the re-election of Hilton Melot to the Nation's Business Committee and Theresa Vieux to the Grievance Committee, heard several important reports, and applauded the switch from an annual pow wow to a Potawatomi Heritage Festival.

Michael Minnis, the Nation's attorney, reported on litigation and other matters his firm has handled for the Nation since mid-1998. "What we have been doing this year is trying to persuade federal authorities to recognize the ramifications of the *Collier* case," Minnis explained.

In the *Collier* case, a federal judge has ordered the federal government to recognize the Citizen Potawatomi Nation's exclusive ownership of the reservation it purchased in the late 1860's. "Unfortunately, the bureaucracy has not always gone along with the courts," Minnis explained. "We have had to go back to court twice."

The first return trip, according to Minnis, was over federal funding for housing programs. "To give you an idea why we felt compelled to go back, of the five Shawnee (BIA) Agency tribes, four of those tribes received less money in the past four years than the Absentee Shawnee received," Minnis said.

He said that occurred despite the fact that the Absentee Shawnee are the only one of the five tribes that has no reservation and has one of the smallest enrollments among those tribes.

The suit filed by the Potawatomi Nation was dismissed on a technicality — a claim by the federal court that the Absentee Shawnee Tribe must be a defendant. "Since they (the Absentee Shawnee Tribe) would not join the suit and are a sover-



Gary Bourbonnais Reads The Election Results

eign (nation), like we are, the judge dismissed the lawsuit," Minnis told Potawatomi members.

The Potawatomi Nation appealed the dismissal, with oral arguments having been represented on March 9, 1999. The federal appeals court has not rendered a decision on the appeal.

Minnis reported on a second important court case filed by the Potawatomi Nation. It flows from the Potawatomi Nation's becoming a "Self-Governance Tribe". That means that the Nation assumed control of Bureau of Indian Affairs programs, operating those programs on its own.

The move to Self-Governance is accomplished through a Compact and an Annual Funding Agreement (AFA) with the U.S. Government. Effects of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe's claiming the Potawatomi Nation's service area as its own show up here, too.

Minnis explained: "They (the Absentee Shawnee Tribe) have just one-twentieth (5%) of the service area population that the Potawatomi Nation has. However, they are receiving more BIA programs funding than we are. That's simply not right."

The Potawatomi Nation has challenged the funding allocation formula. The case was dismissed not on the merits of the facts or the law presented by the Nation. Rather, it was dismissed because the Nation did not include such nations and tribes as the Sac & Fox, Iowa, and Kickapoo among the defendants in the case.

That dismissal has also been appealed. Meanwhile, the BIA team negotiating the AFA has agreed that the Absentee Shawnee Tribe does not share the Potawatomi Nation's service area. "However, they want to give the Potawatomi Nation just an extra \$60,000 (for BIA programs), rather than the \$200,000 or more the Nation believes would be fair," Minnis said.

Potawatomi Chairman Rocky Barrett agreed, saying, "We're serving twenty times as many people with less money than they receive. It's not reasonable. It's not fair. And, we're not able to provide the services that we should."

Chairman Barrett pointed out for tribal members at the General Council meeting that the Absentee Shawnee Housing Authority "built houses on the Potawatomi Reservation. If we had that housing inventory, which we are entitled to, the Potawatomi Nation housing program would receive \$4 million annually."

That amount would build 50 to 60 houses each year for Citizen Potawatomi tribal members.

Tribal members also heard a report on the phenomenal growth of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation's trust moneys over

the past three years. The Nation is one of just three tribes which have taken advantage of the authority to remove their trust funds from BIA management. The Jicarilla Apache Tribe and the Navajo Nation are the other two.

"Our 15-year experience with BIA management of our money," Chairman Barrett said, "averaged less than a 5%

(Continued on next page)

### ELECTION ABSTRACT POTAWATOMI TRIBAL ELECTION

June 26, 1999

#### Committeeman #2:

Hilton Melot:

Absentee Votes 357

Live Votes 129

Total 486

Betty Clarice Vieux Murdock:

Absentee Votes 217

Live Votes 100

Total 317

#### Grievance Committee #1:

Paul A. Schmidtkofer — Unopposed

#### Grievance Committee #3:

Barry Scott Branscum:

Absentee Votes 194

Live Votes 90

Total 284

Teresa Kay Vieux:

Absentee Votes 368

Live Votes 135

Total 503

#### Budget, Land, Development,

#### Maintenance:

Yes:

Absentee Votes 490

Live Votes 153

Total 643

No:

Absentee Votes 74

Live Votes 73

Total 147





# HERITAGE FESTIVAL - JUNE, 1999



**Chairman Barrett Congratulates Olline Hodges, 83, On Being The Wisest Tribal Member Present At The Council Meeting**

Continued from previous page

annual rate of return. During part of that time, interest rates were as high as 15 or 16%. There were even years in which the BIA lost money for us."

The Potawatomi Nation assumed responsibility for investing that trust fund money three years ago, pitting it into a trust fund managed by its own First National Bank and Trust Co. "The trust fund has earned, during those years, a 62% return on investment," Chairman Barrett reported, to a rousing round of applause.

"We are very proud of that record," Barrett said. "That fund has grown from about \$5 million to well over \$7 million."

Following announcement of election results and swearing-in ceremonies for Business Committee member Melot and Grievance Committee member Vieux, First National President Larry Briggs reported on the bank's activities and accomplishments of the past year.

"The bank had an excellent year," Briggs said. "We had a 20% growth in total assets. We had a 5% growth in loans and a 30% growth in deposits. Capital was up by 22% and profits were very similar to what they were last year."

"We are the fastest-growing bank in Shawnee," Briggs pointed out. "And, not only are we the fastest-growing bank but we are the fastest-growing bank by far." Adding all of the growth percentages of the other Shawnee banks together leaves that total short of First National Bank's growth rate.

First National Bank is now the only locally-owned bank in Shawnee. In the time that the Potawatomi Nation has owned First National, its assets have grown from \$14 million to \$57 million.

The bank implemented several new products during 1998-99. One, Briggs said, was specifically for tribal members who do not live in the Shawnee area - Internet banking capability. "We wanted to give



**Lakyn Sharp of Larned, Kansas, Was The Youngest Enrolled Potawatomi Present For The Annual General Council Meeting. Her Parents are Raven Mae and Devin Sharp**

those tribal members who do not live near here the opportunity to bank with the bank they own," Briggs said. "If you want to take a look at the web page, go to [www.fnshawnee.com](http://www.fnshawnee.com)."

The bank also implemented a credit card during the past year. "Forgive me for delivering a sales pitch," Briggs said. "But we want to make this bank grow and do extremely well, as it has the past several years. If you are willing to participate and use the bank, that will help us even more."

Two new small business-oriented services are now available. They are a leasing program and an accounts receivable financing program.



**Vice Chairman Linda Capps With Donna Barnard, Winner Of The Annual Art Contest**



**This Lovely Family Group Joined A Standing-Room-Only Crowd At The Annual General Council Meeting. From Left: Kathy Johnson, Monroe, LA; Oleta Holloway, Ada, OK; And Audrey Kambiss, Palm Harbor, FL.**

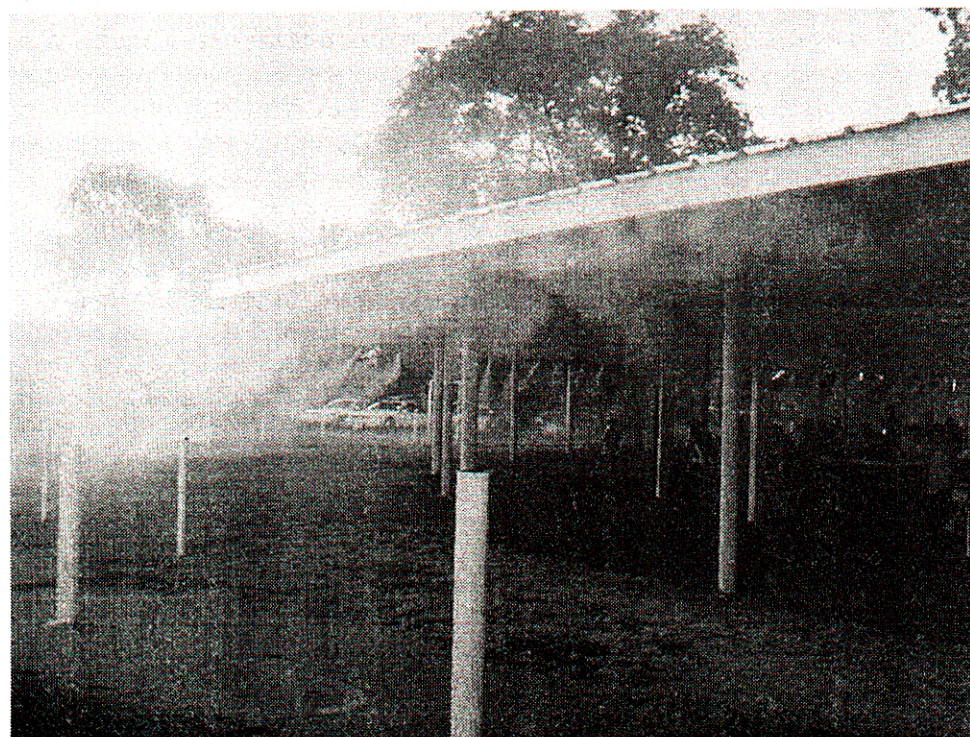




# HERITAGE FESTIVAL - JUNE, 1999



The sights and sounds of the inaugural Citizen Potawatomi Festival all pointed to a weekend of thorough enjoyment for the thousands of tribal members who attended.



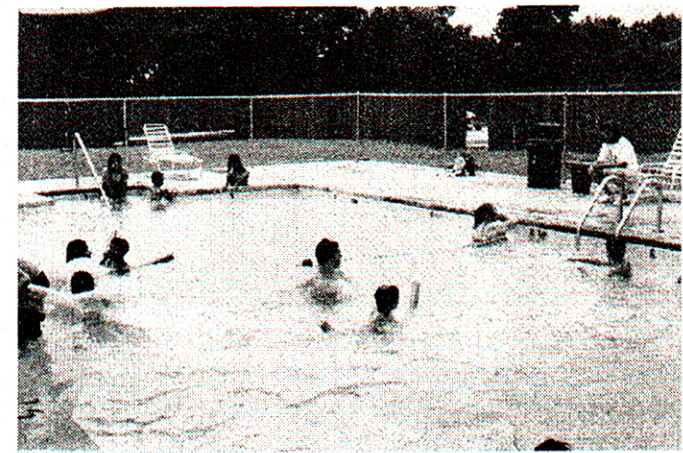
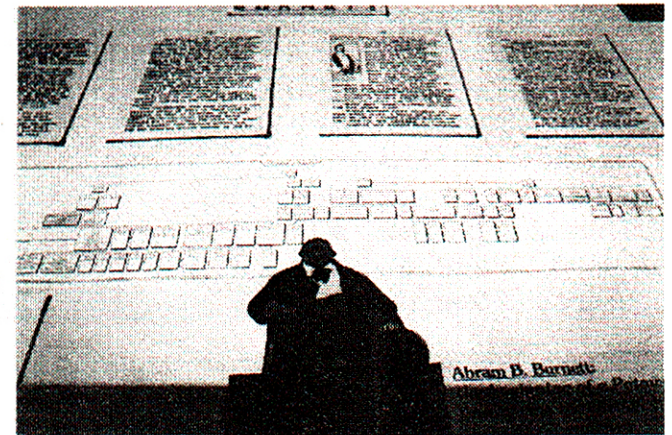




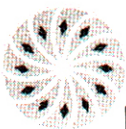
# HERITAGE FESTIVAL - JUNE, 1999



A Fry Bread contest, the opportunity to just sit and visit, the country and western band that performed for the Friday night dance, a swimming pool full of smiling youngsters represent just a small portion of the available activities.







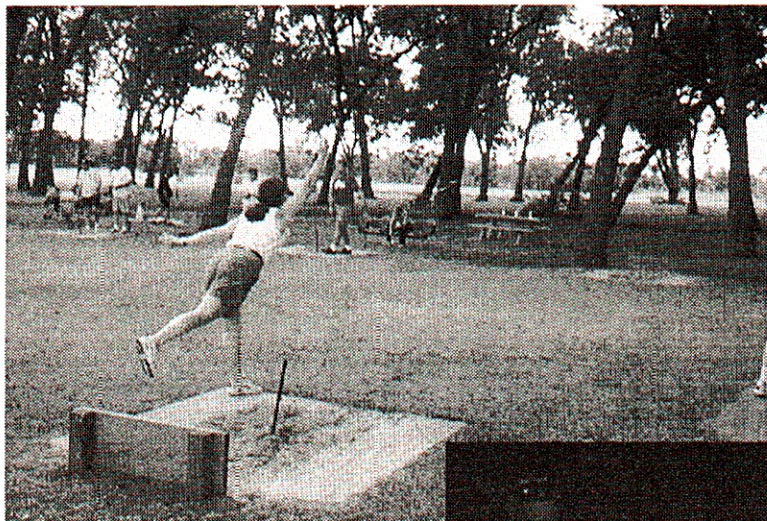
# HERITAGE FESTIVAL - JUNE, 1999



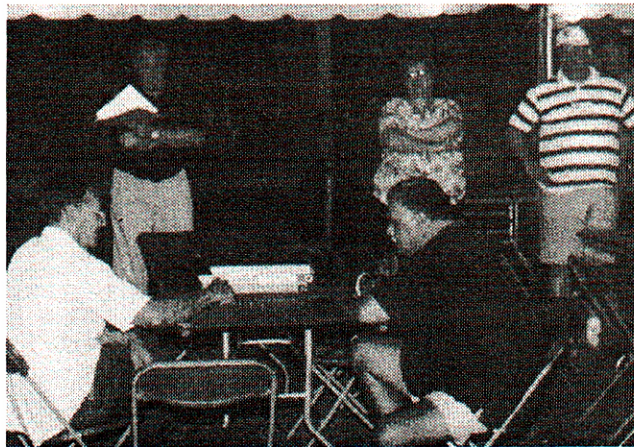
This traditional hand game kept dozens of Potawatomis enthralled for much of Friday night.



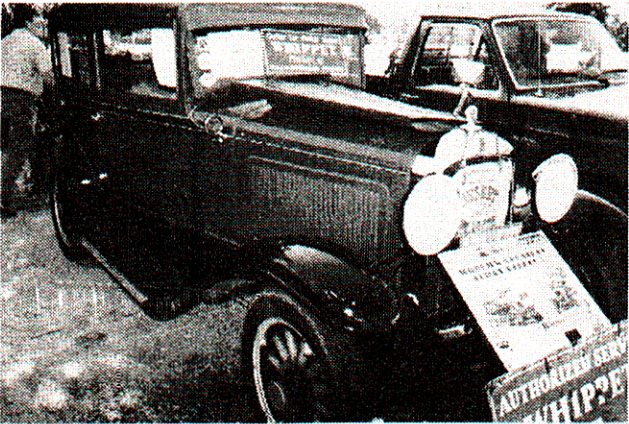
Three-on-three basketball and volleyball both proved popular with Festival attendees.



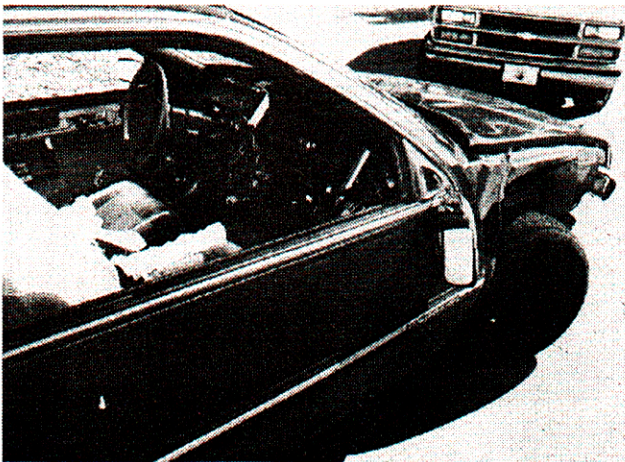
Horseshoe competition began in the daylight but ended after dark. Jana Robins, above, was one of 50 entries. Winners, right, were Kirk Martin, left, third; Mike Deer, second from left, second; and Michael Robins, center, first. They are pictured with Hilton Melot, far right, and Mike Woods, second from right.



Checkers, above, and dominoes, below, were serious business for these competitors.



The Best Indian Car Contest ended up with two winners: Joyce Lena took first place with the car at right while the car above earned special recognition because of its uniqueness.







# HERITAGE FESTIVAL - JUNE, 1999



## KIDS' STUFF



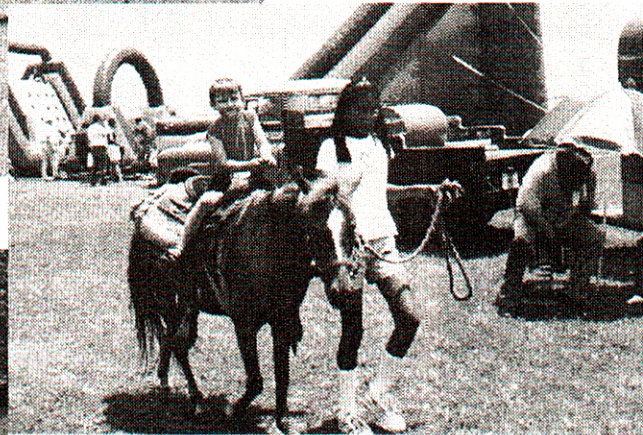
A giant slide lured brave youngsters.



Tracy Haney fingerprinted kids for Ident-A-Kid, including Madalynne Melot, daughter of Jason and Devra Melot and granddaughter of Hilton and Romona Melot.



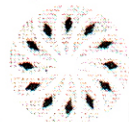
Critters from Little River Zoo proved fascinating to the kids, who got some hands-on time.



What fun! Clockwise, from the top, are the egg and spoon race, pony rides and the three-legged race. At right, one of several games testing children's skills.







# HERITAGE FESTIVAL - JUNE, 1999



Left: This beautiful young lady had a front row seat for the dancing. Below: Tim Tall Chief provided a running commentary from the announcer's booth.



Jack Barrett, right, presents a \$5 bill to a young Tiny Tot dancers. All the youngsters were "winners."



All who participated in Saturday's Pow Wow Dance were winners as they developed more knowledge of their culture. These ladies and gentlemen were judged best. Men's Southern Straight Dance: Jon Ketzler, 1st; John Gibson, 2nd; Same James, 3rd; James Newberry, 4th; Jeremy Finch, 5th. Women's Southern Cloth: Peggy Kinder, 1st; Amanda Wamego, 2nd; Lisa Kraft, 3rd; Margaret Zientek, 4th; Penny Bishop, 5th.



Lesson Time: Leslie Deer Shows A Large Group Of Men Some Steps...



... And Then Puts The Women Through Their Paces





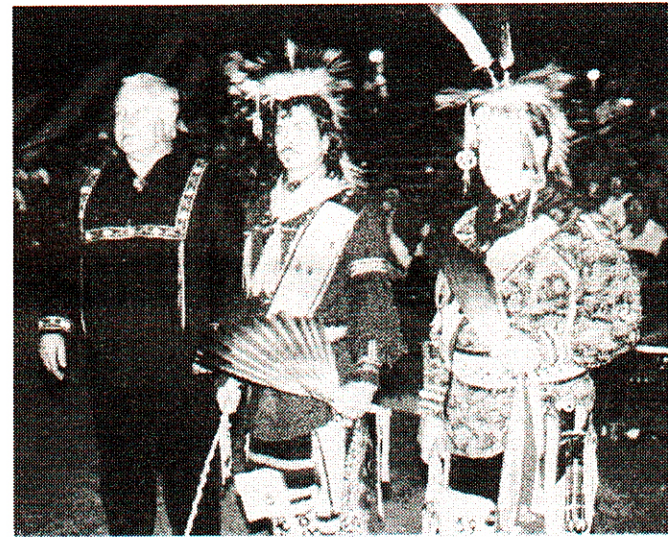
# HERITAGE FESTIVAL - JUNE, 1999



Colorful Potawatomi dancers, like those at left, enjoyed demonstration dances by Leslie Deer, above, and Kevin Connywerdy, right.

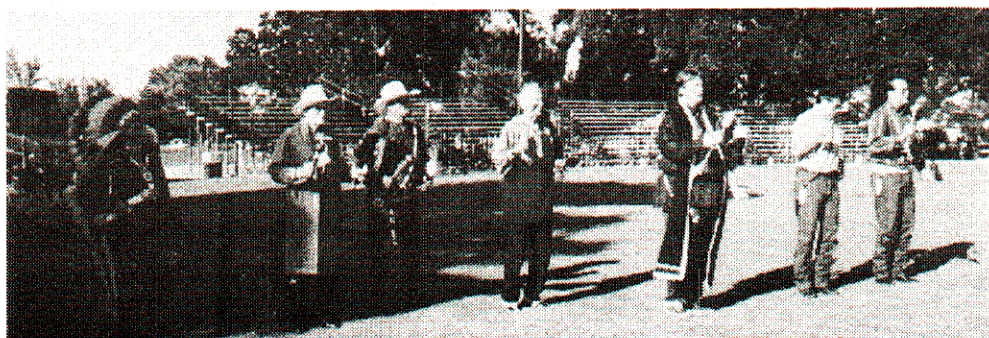
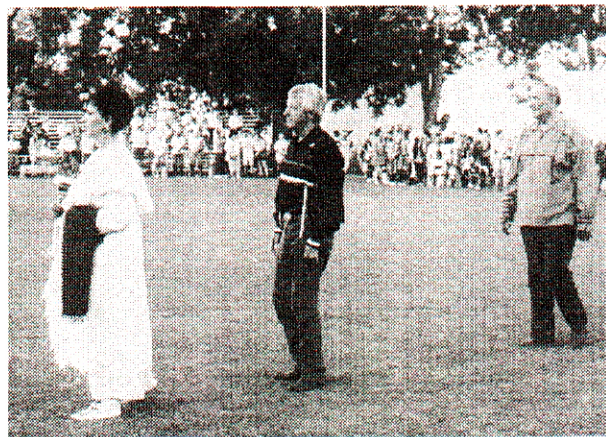


Rough Arrow proved to be a very popular drum.



Left: Chairman Barrett participated in a roaching ceremony for the son of the head man dancer.

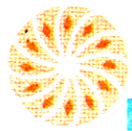
Near Left: Business Committeemembers Linda Capps, Gene Bruno and J.P. Motley in the grand entry. Far right.: Chairman John A. Barrett in his regalia.



Left: Gourd dancers enjoyed the late afternoon sun.







# HERITAGE FESTIVAL - JUNE, 1999



A New Tradition Is Born



Celebration Of Heritage

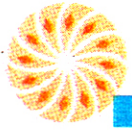


Citizen Potawatomi Festival Photos  
By Gloria Trotter, Stephen Nolen,  
Michael Dodson, Dennis Tiger,  
Linda Capps & Susan Dodson

Potawatomi people are proud of their heritage both as Native Americans and as citizens of the greatest country on Earth. That patriotism was an important part of the Grand Entry of the All-Potawatomi Pow Wow Dance on Saturday night.







# HERITAGE FESTIVAL - JUNE, 1999



The All-Potawatomi Pow Wow Dance offered an opportunity to celebrate the Nation's future and introduce Potawatomi children to an important element of their culture and heritage.







# HERITAGE FESTIVAL - JUNE, 1999



## Sacred Heart Tour

A Sunday tour of the Sacred Heart Mission near Konawa was an opportunity for many Potawatomi to reach back and touch their history.



Many Potawatomis Still Attend Sacred Heart Catholic Church



Tribal Member Tim Lowery, representing the Sacred Heart Historical Society, And Chairman Barrett Give Visiting Tribal Members Some Historical Background



State Sen. Enoch Kelly Haney, a Seminole, and his wife Debra Jean, a Citizen Potawatomi tribal member, enjoyed the Sacred Heart tour.





# HERITAGE FESTIVAL - JUNE, 1999



## Sacred Heart Tour







## Regional Office Directory

### REGION 1 - OREGON/IDAHO

### REGION 2 - WASHINGTON

(INCLUDES ALASKA & HAWAII)

#### Roscoe "Rocky" Baptiste

Box 346, 525 Ivy Ave., Gervais, OR 97026  
Local (503) 792-3744 • FAX (503) 792-3744  
Toll-Free (800) 522-3744  
e-mail: Region01@Potawatomi.org

### REGION 3 - NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

#### Jennifer J. Porter

5033 Vannoy Ave., Castro Valley, CA 94546  
Local (510) 886-4195 • Toll-Free (800) 874-8585  
e-mail: Region03@Potawatomi.org

### REGION 4 - SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

#### Jeremy Bertrand Finch

203 Bellefontaine St., Pasadena, CA 91105  
Local (626) 403-0930 • FAX (800) 432-2008  
e-mail: Region04@Potawatomi.org

### REGION 5 - SOUTHWEST

(INCLUDES ARIZONA & WESTERN NEW MEXICO)

#### Philonise Williams

20415 N. 29th St., Phoenix, AZ 85024  
Local (602) 569-3073 • FAX (602) 569-6935  
Toll-Free (800) 452-8966  
e-mail: Region05@Potawatomi.org

### REGION 6 - COLORADO

(INCLUDES MONTANA, UTAH, WYOMING,  
WESTERN NEBRASKA, WESTERN KANSAS)

#### Penny Bishop

90 Meade Lane, Englewood, CO 80110  
Local (303) 761-7021 • FAX (303) 761-1660  
Toll-Free (800) 531-1140  
e-mail: Region06@Potawatomi.org

### REGION 7 - NORTHERN TEXAS

(INCLUDES EASTERN NEW MEXICO)

#### Marjorie Hobdy

3132 Kathy Lane, Irving, TX 75060  
Local (972) 790-3075 • Toll-Free (800) 742-3075  
e-mail: Region07@Potawatomi.org

### REGION 8 - SOUTHERN TEXAS

#### Lu Ellis

26231 Huffsmith-Conroe Rd., Magnolia, TX 77355  
Local (281) 356-7957 • Toll-Free (800) 272-7957  
e-mail: Region08@Potawatomi.org

### REGION 9 - MIDWEST

(INCLUDES EASTERN NEBRASKA & EASTERN KANSAS)

12516 Askew Dr., Grandview, MO 64030  
Local (816) 761-2333 • Toll-Free (800) 325-6639  
e-mail: Region09@Potawatomi.org

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation is divided into different "Regional Offices" to help cover the extended membership across the nation. Originally labeled merely by region names, regional boundaries were established in late 1997 using the US Postal Service "3 digit" Zip code areas. Region '0' is generally considered Oklahoma while the other states that are not numbered currently do not have an official "Region" designator.

# REGIONAL REPORTS

## Northern California

Bosho!

It's always good to return to Oklahoma's green rolling hills. The rains had visited through Thursday and flooded the softball fields. The softball tournament was the only event that was canceled among all the activities at our Potawatomi Festival. There was much for the children to do, with arts and crafts, swimming, etc. and an inflatable bouncing, sliding apparatus that was a big hit.

The cultural and language sessions were a real highlight for me. Norman Kiker had a good turn out and did well to get everyone started learning and speaking our beautiful language. He had two speakers come to present information on our culture.

The first was John Warren, who is Pokagon Potawatomi. Mr. Warren gave us much from his heart and told us what he had been taught. The second was Zach Morris, grand champion traditional dancer, who is Sac and Fox/Potawatomi/Pawnee. Mr. Morris shared his story of growing up, becoming a dancer, and traveling the world performing and sharing his art and knowledge.

I recorded both of these presentations and will write a few excerpts in my next report.

The Potawatomi night in the arena was a lot of fun. Janet Draper headed up a team of hard workers (including Esther Lowden and Ginger Johnson and others) to make 300 shawls and sashes. It was so good to see so many of them in the circle.

Since there had been dance lessons earlier, everyone felt comfortable participating.

Our own Barbara Potter did storytelling for young and old. There was a good turnout for that too. She did a beautiful job.

The Sacred Heart tour was popular. I went to lay tobacco down on my great grandparents' graves. There was a showing of the Trail of Tears video, as well as a history lesson given by Chairman Barrett.

There are now signposts for the sites at Sacred Heart and it was easy to walk through the sites and get a feel for what it must have been like to live there.

A lot of work was done to make everyone feel comfortable. There were tents, tables, and chairs everywhere. There were misters in all the tents and the Roundhouse, which felt great when it finally got pretty warm on Saturday.

Registration was handled

efficiently and quickly. Everyone enjoyed meeting new relations and getting more information on their family trees. There were free meals and there was plenty of water supplied to everyone. The whole event felt like a family reunion and a good time was had by all.

Now, as far as events around here go, I just got a flyer for the 1999 Multi-Cultural Family Festival and Conference. It will be August 20-22 at the Evergreen Valley Community College, 2095 Yerba Buena Road, San Jose, CA. It will feature Cultural workshops, a pow wow, theater, dance, crafts, children's amusement rides areas, food booths, a local art fair, and a variety of resource information booths. Sounds good, eh? Admission is free. For more info or to be a volunteer, call Rosemary Baez or Usha Welartna at 408-277-0732.

Remember that I'll start planning our next regional meeting now. So, contact me if you have suggestions or want to help. I always appreciate hearing from you.

Until next time, be well and travel safely.

Pama pi,

— Jennifer J. Porter

## Southern California

Bourzho Nikani!

Greetings from Pasadena!

The weather has finally turned, and we're in full-tilt summer. Remember your fold-out shades and spray bottles when you go out to pow wow!

The Potawatomi Nation Festival was an unqualified success. As anticipated by the Nation's leadership and scores of supporters, it was by and for our people, and we, the people, had a blast! The real challenge was scheduling all the activities you wanted to do, because there were so many. The games and activities really kept you busy, and there was plenty to do no matter what your age.

Saturday night's traditional pow wow was a real high point

for my family and me. Sitting together on the benches and dancing all the intertribals and honor dances meant a lot of dancing! And, sweat! Whew! It was humid!! But, that's all part of an Oklahoma pow wow.

I want to take a line here to thank the incredible staff and employees of the Nation for their remarkable efforts to make all of us feel at home and to fix any little thing that got out of whack. You folks are the best, bar none!

Speakin' of pow wows: every pow wow from now on will be a letdown by comparison to our own, and there are only a few in the Southern California region that are even worth the trip:

July 24-25, 1999 — 5th Annual Four Directions Native American Friendship Pow Wow, William Carey International University, Pasadena, CA, Hill Avenue exit, north to Howard, right to pow wow. Info: 626-398-2379.

July 30th-August 1, 1999 — Southern California Indian Center Pow Wow, Orange County Fairgrounds, 88 Fair Drive, Costa Mesa, CA. Info: 714-663-1102. See you out there!

I still have a listing of many services in the area, so get in touch! Be well, blessings on your families, and

Bama mine',

— Jeremy Bertrand Finch



# REGIONAL REPORTS

## North Texas

My weather report for the month of June for Texas was the high 80's or the low 90's, but the humidity was a killer. We had spotty showers that kept everything green. Now, we're deep into summer.

I hope that more of you than I met in Shawnee were there. I know of some members who were there for the first time. Among those were Chris Detherage and his family and my nephew, Hayden Meredith, and his wife Pam, and daughter Molly Blair.

The Northern Texas/Eastern New Mexico Region had a very good showing at the Gathering. Donna Barnard won the Grand Prize in the art competition. Karin Kreager competed in the Women's Cloth dance competition and that is one of the purposes of the new format, to get our tribal members to dance. Karin did not win this year, so we will have to wait until next year.

Sam James won third place in the Men's Straight Dance. Jesse James also competed in the Men's Straight Dance and we will have to wait until next year for him to win, also.

Sam James and his brother Jesse are involved with the Order of the Arrow, Nishkin Halupa A Pe Lachi Lodge, Longhorn Council Fort Worth. Jesse and Sam attended a Section Conclave in April, a gathering of 13 lodges to fellowship, have training sessions and ceremony competition. In this competition, Sam James won first place in novice division straight dance. Sam and Jesse and their mother and father, Debbie and Johnny James, were making their first trip to Shawnee and camped on the Pow Wow grounds.

Our region was well represented in the hand games also. The team I was on had my daughter, Susan, the Art Grand Prize-winning Donna Barnard, third place Men's Straight Dance winner Sam James, brother Jesse James, father Johnny James, and Jack Barrett. The other three members were Rocky and Maxine Baptiste of the regional office in Oregon and Peggy Lyons of Shawnee (formerly from the Dallas area).

After a hard-fought battle, we lost to the team that eventually won first place and the prize that went with winning. Our reasoning was that we lost to the winner. And, we did have a lot of fun.

For our new high school graduates or continuing college students, there is also information about the scholarships available. This help continues to improve, so, be sure to follow up on this. This is available for you as a tribal member.

And, we send congratulations to all of our high school and college graduates.

— *Marj Hobby*

## Parent workshop held July 28

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation tribal headquarters building was the site for a free workshop for parents. "Basic Rights, Communication Skills, and writing a Successful IEP" was held on Wednesday, July 28, 1999. The workshop begins at 8:00 a.m. that day.

The overall topic for the discussion was parents' rights and responsibilities under laws governing special education programs. Topics included: Parental Involvement in Planning a Child's Individual Education Program (IEP); Free Appropriate Public Education requirements; Assertiveness Techniques; What to Do When There Are Disagreements; and, Appropriate Evaluations.

Sharon Bishop, Executive Director of PRO-Oklahoma (Parents Reaching Out in Oklahoma) said that information presented at the workshop applies to all children who have physical, mental, emotional, or learning disabilities. Bishop hopes all interested parents, especially those whose children have a disability, will become better informed about their rights and responsibilities.

The workshop is sponsored by PRO-Oklahoma. It is co-sponsored by the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, the Kickapoo Tribe, and the American Indian Council.

PRO-Oklahoma was a statewide parent training and information project funded by the U.S. Department of Education. It was sponsored by United Cerebral Palsy of Oklahoma. PRO-Oklahoma's goal is to act as a bridge between parents of children and youth with disabilities and service providers, to help fill the need for support, knowledge, and the skills necessary for parents to obtain the best possible services for their children.

Anyone who wishes to obtain material on parents' rights and responsibilities under the special education laws can write PRO-Oklahoma at 1917 South Harvard Avenue, Oklahoma City, OK 73128.

The organization can be reached via telephone at 405-681-9710, V/TDD or toll-free at 800-759-4142 (parents only please). PRO-Oklahoma's e-mail address is [prook1@aol.com](mailto:prook1@aol.com).

## Southwest

What a thrill for me to attend the First Annual Citizen Potawatomi Nation Festival. With Philonise Williams' help, I was able to organize and make all the traditional regalia for my first public tribal ceremony.

What excitement to think of the generations past, who gathered to honor their heritage. It was expressive in mind, body, and spirit on a personal level, and expanded itself to include all. It was a gathering of which all Citizen Potawatomi can be proud. I certainly was.

I did feel badly for those of you who could not attend and participate in all of the family fun. The tribe made sashes and shawls so everyone could dance and provided all the food you could possibly eat.

Thank you to all who participated in organizing and making such a fun-filled weekend possible. Be sure to start planning now for next year, and experience who you are ... an important part of the Potawatomi Nation.

Philonise will be minding the telephones for a couple more weeks, because telephones are hard to come by in Arizona rights. We are the fastest growing state in the U.S.A. That's great for Arizona but difficult when you are waiting for a telephone, as I am.

Philonise and I will continue working together for the best interests of the Citizen Potawatomi people of the Southwest. She has done a great job. She's a great lady and elder of our people. I have a great deal to learn from her.

Thank you, Philonise, for caring about all of us and dedicating so much of your love and time with wisdom.

So, until next month, take care, think good thoughts, and do good deeds.

With great respect,

— *Gene Lambert-Gist*

## Forest County Potawatomi see benefits from gaming money

(Milwaukee, Wisconsin) — New programs and improved housing are results of the millions of dollars that have poured into the Potawatomi's Forest County reservation and the surrounding areas. Once one of the poorest of Wisconsin's 11 tribes, the Forest County Potawatomi is now one of the richest, earning about \$100 million a year. Almost all of the tribe's earnings are from its Milwaukee casino.

And, gambling revenue is expected to double for the 1,087-member tribe when expansion is completed at its Potawatomi Bingo Casino.

The tribe's earnings have made their way to the Potawatomi reservation and the towns of Crandon, Wabeno, and Carter, where the tribe's other casino is located. The Potawatomi have replaced substandard housing, improved sewer and water systems and other community facilities, and opened the tribe's first health clinic.

The Potawatomi "are definitely keeping Crandon and Forest County on the map," said Cliff Flannery, owner of a construction business and racetrack in Forest County. The tribe's reservation now includes new homes, new programs, such as day care and an alternative high school, apartments for the elderly and handicapped, and a museum and cultural center set to open this summer.

It's as though the tribe has advanced 150 years in five years, tribal Chairman Phil Shopodock said. But, it will take some time to adjust, he said.

The tribe also uses half of its net gambling revenue to pay each tribal member twice monthly. While tribal officials have not said how much the payments are, members say they receive about \$2,400 per month, or \$28,800 a year. Potawatomi leaders have not disputed that figure.

The payments are made to every enrolled tribal member, with money for children held in trust until they turn 18. Potawatomi members pay federal income taxes on the payments. But, those who live on the reservation pay no state income tax or property tax.

"This instant wealth, I don't feel it yet. If you look at the numbers, you'd have to say we are rich," Eugene Shawno, a former tribal official said. "But, we haven't forgotten what poverty is," he added.

Life has definitely improved for the Forest County Potawatomi, agreed brothers George and Robert Daniels. Rickety trailer homes have been replaced, better health care is now available, and there is money for decent clothes and better cars, said Robert Daniels.

George Daniels said that, on the other hand, the new money has meant more problems with non-Indians in the Crandon area. "They don't like it that we get that money. They can't deal with the fact that life is getting good for us."

Shopodock is encouraging tribal members to start their own businesses. "Gaming isn't the end-all, it's the catalyst," he said.





# From The Chairman

By John A. "Rocky" Barrett

## Boozho Nicon (Hello my friends),

With about six weeks to recover and look back, my feelings about the Heritage Festival grow even stronger. It was a huge success. Virtually every one of the comments we received has been very positive. There are always a few that hate anything we do, but the response was overwhelmingly positive.

On the first day, Friday, I talked to more Potawatomi than I have talked to on powwow weekend for 10 years. Usually I am scrambling to get ready for the Grand Entry or "Potawatomi Night" or something that keeps me from just sitting down and visiting with our members (or you could say "my kinfolks" since all of us are related somehow).

As our members pulled in to park in their RV spots, I got a chance to help them set up and visit. It was a little muddy, since we had more rain that week than in four months the year before, but everyone was in high spirits. The reunion tents began to fill up and people began to visit the registration tent. We registered more than 3500 people by Saturday night.

We were able to work out the kinks in the food service, since 2500 people ate what we had prepared for 3500 that day, and the meals went smoothly – thanks to Jamie Moucka and her crew and a huge number of staff volunteers.

The kids had a great time with swimming, games, the playground and giant slide, stories, Karaoke, and lots of food. The Friday night dance hosted by the Title VI Elders went extremely well; the dance floor was full from first song to "Goodnight Irene". I hope I have that kind of energy when I add some more years.

The hand game was a good time. Everyone who participated said it was a lot of fun and exciting. It lasted about three hours. Next year we will have some new rules to shorten it a bit and spice it up some more. Since this was our first one ever, next year we will have some veteran players who can help out.

I missed the domino and golf events because I ran the hand game, but the folks who played were still laughing when they got back. It was too wet to play softball, but the basketball and volleyball had more than 130 people entered. Competition was fierce because the rules called for mixed teams of both men and women and some players older than 45.

Surprisingly, some of the things that happened without our planning them were a significant part of the good time we had. A pan flute band of Inca Indians volunteered to play for the two afternoons and was so impressive. The band included drums and guitars. The music was relaxing and lent to the atmosphere.

The reunion tents each developed a style of its own as the families organized things themselves. At the Peltier reunion tent, Kenneth Peltier, Sr. had a videotape that accompanied the book he wrote about his fascinating life. It showed several times on a video player he brought. It was such a hit the Business Committee is going to furnish a video player in each tent next year to show family and historical videotapes.

The high-pressure mist sprayers in the tents kept the temperature at least 15 degrees cooler. The appearance of the fog as it drifts across the area is fun and the kids were laughing as they played under each spray head. The system didn't seem to give the ladies' hair any trouble because it mostly evaporated above their heads.

Tim Tall Chief did a super job as the public address announcer the entire festival and powwow announcer on Saturday. His voice and humor were a "signature" for the pleasant "laid-back" atmosphere of the three days.

The Saturday Indian dancing featured some fifty dancers, all Potawatomi, in regalia. It was so heart-filling to be a part of it. Some elders from the Melot family who have not had their feathers on in decades came out to dance.

A huge number of kids danced their first dance because of the availability of 450 girls' shawls and boys' sashes put together by Janet Draper for "loan" to those who did not bring their own.

The Sacred Heart Tour was a real treat because of the surprise attendance of two honored lady elders who attended Sacred Heart when it was open. Their stories were a precious gift to all of us who went along to hear them.

The priests who accompanied us did an inspiring job of telling the story of the early home of the Potawatomi and their relationship to the Catholic Church at that time, including some really humorous stories of the early day priests' coping with primitive conditions.

Next year will be even bigger and better as we learn what you want. The best part of it all, however, will always be the same: it is our tradition, our people, our own ways, our celebration, and our fun. That will always be the same. I thank all of you who helped and all who attended from the bottom of my heart.

Igweyen,

John Barrett

## Pipestem mourned

# Sovereignty pathfinder walks on

(Norman, OK) — Native America and Indians in Oklahoma and across the United States have been saddened by news of the passing of a true champion of tribal government sovereignty.

Mr. Browning Pipestem (Otoe/Missouria) of Norman died on August 2, 1999.

"Browning was one of the original Justices of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Supreme Court," said John A. Barrett, Jr., Citizen Potawatomi Nation Chairman. "More important, he and Bill Rice were the Nation's mentors, guides, and advisors in our transformation from a pitiful, uncertain, timorous, BIA-dominated 'band' to a proud Nation aware of its sovereignty and determined to exert it."

In addition to co-authoring the Citizen Potawatomi Nation's revised Constitution and Bylaws, Pipestem's oratory and persuasiveness touched Native Americans' hearts in a manner that left them forever changed.

"Perhaps that is the best way to describe Browning Pipestem," Chairman Barrett said. "After you met him, you were never the same. He was a great man who will go down in Indian history as one of the Fathers of tribal sovereignty and Native American rights across the entire United States."

Pipestem was a part of the most historic court cases ever tried on behalf of Indian tribes. He gave selflessly of himself for Indian people. "He was our friend, our benefactor, and our brother. He will be sorely missed. Our hearts go out to his family," Barrett said.

Sharon Pipestem, Browning Pipestem's wife, is a Citizen Potawatomi from the Neddeau family.

A wake was held on August 3rd at Glorietta Baptist Church at I-240 and Western in Oklahoma City. A Memorial Service was held on August 4th, also at the Glorietta Baptist Church.

Mr. Pipestem's body was then taken to the Otoe/Missouria Cultural Center in Red Rock for a tribal wake on August 4th. Burial took place at the tribal cemetery on August 5th.

"We urge you to remember Browning Pipestem and his family with your prayers and expressions of sympathy," Barrett said.

Sharon Pipestem's address is 911 Westbrook Terrace, Norman, OK 73072.

## Walking on...

WILLIAM J. SWEENEY

William J. Sweeney, 84, a retired federal administrative law judge who specialized in areas of transportation and environmental law, died at his home in Reno, Nevada on April 26, 1999.

Judge Sweeney was an enrolled member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. He was a great-great-great grandson of Antoine Ouilmette, a French trader and explorer, and Archange Chevalier Ouilmette, a Potawatomi woman who, in 1829, received a 1,280-acre allotment on Lake Michigan. That allotment encompasses what are now parts of the Village of Wilmette, Illinois and the city of Evanston, Illinois. The Ouilmettes were early residents of what is now Chicago, Illinois.

Judge Sweeney was born in Chicago. He graduated from the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana. He was the son of William J. Sweeney, Sr. and Laura Dean, a Citizen Potawatomi tribal member who attended the Sacred Heart Mission School. He received his law degree from the University of Illinois College of Law and began his private practice in Washington in 1939. In 1942, he was admitted to the U.S. Supreme Court Bar.

Judge Sweeney heard cases for the Interstate Commerce Commission from 1952 to 1957 and again from 1962 to 1970. He served as Chairman of the Mountain Pacific Railroads Research Committee in San Francisco from 1957 to 1960. He returned to Washington in 1961 to hear cases for the Federal Maritime Commission. In 1976, Judge Sweeney retired from his position as an administrative law judge for the Environmental Protection Agency in San Francisco. He had heard cases throughout the western and Pacific regions.

In retirement, Judge Sweeney worked as a contract administrative law judge for various federal agencies and for the Bonneville Power Administration. He also worked for Washoe Legal Services, advising senior citizens. He served as a special master for the United States Third Circuit Court of Appeals.

Judge Sweeney served in the U.S. Navy during World War II as a lieutenant, j.g. aboard an LST in the Pacific and at the Judge Advocate General's office in Washington. He later served as a captain in the U.S. Air Force Reserves.

He was a charter member of the Old Town Civic Association and, with his wife Dorothy, enjoyed restoring several houses in Alexandria, Virginia's historic district. He was a member of the American Arbitration Association.

Judge Sweeney was an avid reader and book collector. He enjoyed cross-country skiing, hiking, and fishing in the Lake Tahoe area near Reno.

Judge Sweeney is survived by his wife of 59 years, Dorothy Wheatley Sweeney of Reno; sons Michael Dean Sweeney of Nevada City, California and Thomas Wilson Sweeney of Washington, D.C.; and daughters Kathleen Sweeney Bowman of Grass Valley, California and Mary Clare Sweeney of Reno.





# HERITAGE FESTIVAL - JUNE, 1999



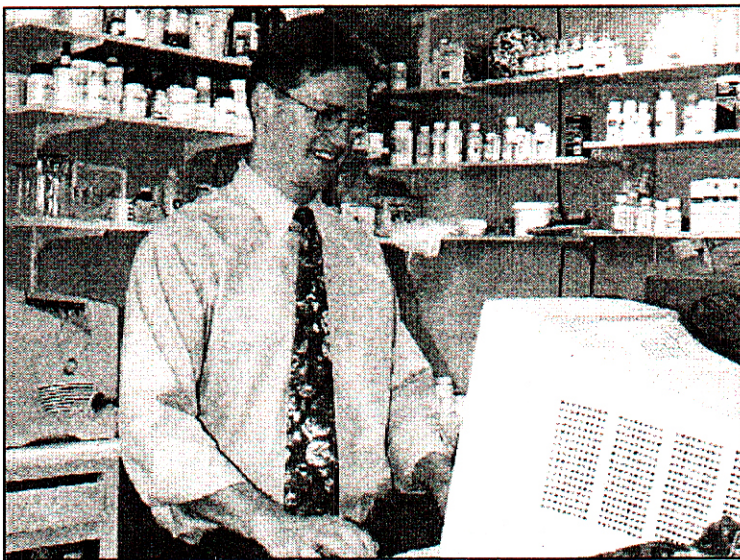
## First Place

The "Dream Team" claimed first place in the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Festival Volleyball Tournament. Business Committee member Hilton Melot, far right, presented the winnings to team members Mike Deer, Chris Jones, Mardesia Finch, Leslie Deer, Ron Factor, J.R. Harjo and James SunEagle.



## Second Place

"The Woods" placed second in the tournament. Making up that team were Mike Wood, Joe Garrie, Steve Espolt, Aaron Espolt, Leta Factor, Dee Wood and Jon Weddle. Also pictured is an unidentified young man who looks suspiciously like Mike Wood, who is standing behind him.



"First National Bank's products and services have significantly contributed to my pharmacy's success. First National people are helpful and friendly. It sure is nice to go somewhere where people recognize you and call you by your name." Eric Winegardner, Eric's Discount Pharmacy.

"My time as First National Marketing Director has been tremendous. It's relationships with customers, such as Eric, who believe so strongly in quality and service that has made it so enjoyable." - Jane Lauderdale.



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# Another honor for Potawatomi athlete Jim Thorpe

July 4, 1999 dawned sunny and warm. As people across the Oklahoma City metro poured a first cup of coffee, stirred the sugar into a bowl of cereal, and turned to the *Daily Oklahoman* sports section, they learned of another honor for Citizen Potawatomi athletic legend Jim Thorpe.

In a poll of employees of the *Oklahoman's* Sports Department, Thorpe has been selected "Male Athlete of the Century". And, that's for all athletes, worldwide. The remainder of the top five are: (2) George Herman 'Babe' Ruth, who re-designed the offensive side of baseball; (3) Muhammad Ali, heavyweight boxing legend; (4) Michael Jordan, Chicago Bulls basketball star; and, (5) Wilton Norman Chamberlain, 7'1" basketball center who set an unmatched standard with a 50.4 points per game scoring average over an entire NBA season.

In an article about the Oklahoman sports staff voting, Bob Colon, Oklahoman Sports Editor, noted, "The foursome of Thorpe, Ruth, Ali, and Jordan should finish at the top of most male athlete of the century surveys."

In 1950, the Associated Press conducted a survey to determine the Top Male Athlete of the Half-Century. Thorpe was first and Ruth was second in that voting. Thorpe was named the "Greatest American Football Player in History" in a 1977 national poll conducted by Sport Magazine.

According to Sports Editor Terry Taylor, AP will release the names of its athletes of the century in October and November. Taylor said that Associated Press will have groups of five people from each sport rank the top 10



individuals in their sports. According to Taylor, these panels will be comprised of people from within each sport – "people such as managers and trainers in boxing." Taylor said that Associated Press staff members and employees of AP-affiliated newspapers will not vote.

Taylor said that AP will then select one person from each of the sport-specific panels to vote on

the overall athlete of the century awards.

Grace Thorpe of Prague, Oklahoma, a Thorpe daughter, has been running a campaign to remind sportswriters and broadcasters of her father's early Twentieth Century accomplishments. Thorpe pronounced herself very pleased with the Oklahoman sports staff's decision.

Jim Thorpe received 10 of a

possible 26 first place votes in the Oklahoman polling. Points were awarded on a basis of three for a first-place vote, two for a second-place vote, and one for a third-place vote. Thorpe received five second-place mentions and four votes for third place, for a total of 44 poll points. He was mentioned on 19 of the 26 ballots. Ruth was named on 14 ballots.

Thorpe was born several miles south of Prague in May 1887. His mother was Charlotte Vieux, a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. His father Hiram Thorpe was Sac and Fox.

Thorpe excelled in three sports. His track and field exploits are legend. He won Olympic gold medals in 1912 in both of the grueling multi-event competitions the decathlon and pentathlon. Presenting Thorpe his Olympic gold medals, King Gustav V of Sweden said, "You, Sir, are the greatest athlete in the world."

Thorpe played professional football from 1920 through 1928, was the first president of the American Professional Football Association, the NFL's forerunner, and was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1963.

Before moving on to pro football, Jim Thorpe was a major league baseball player for six seasons for the New York (now San Francisco) Giants, Cincinnati Reds, and Boston (now Atlanta) Braves. In his final major league season in 1919, Thorpe hit .327 while splitting time with the Giants and Braves.

The Thorpe legend began to grow as he played football for the Carlisle, PA, Indian School. In 1911, he scored all of his team's points in an 18-15 win over then-

Eastern power Harvard. In 1912, Thorpe scored a 97-yard touchdown run against a powerful Army team. He was an All-America halfback in both 1911 and 1912.

Thorpe earned letterman status in 11 different sports at Carlisle. It's not well known, but Thorpe was the 1912 intercollegiate ballroom dance champion while at Carlisle.

Four years before athlete of the century selections would happen, Grace Thorpe initiated a petition campaign on behalf of her father. Thorpe doesn't think she started the drive too soon. "Things take a long time," she said, "I don't want any mix-ups like the one where they proposed having the 1996 Olympic Torch Relay coming through Yale, which they had been calling Dad's birthplace. Dad's birthplace was near the town of Prague."

Jim Thorpe has been enshrined in the National Indian Hall of Fame, the Helms Professional Football Hall of Fame, the Professional Football Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio, the National Track and Field Hall of Fame, and the Pennsylvania and Oklahoma Halls of Fame.

In acknowledgment of Jim Thorpe's contribution to sports in the second decade of this century, the United States Postal Service honored the Potawatomi Indian athlete with a commemorative stamp, on January 30, 1998 at the Oklahoma State Capitol's Rotunda as part of the postal service's "Celebrate the Century Program." The Jim Thorpe stamp went on sale nationwide on February 3, 1998.

## Tribal member inks pro baseball contract

(Tecumseh, OK) – 18-year-old Scott Patten's paychecks will now come courtesy of a Chicago White Sox farm team. The 1999 Tecumseh High School graduate signed a professional baseball contract with the White Sox on Thursday, June 10.

He has reported to Tucson, Arizona for Rookie League ball. The Rookie League's players are recent high school graduates. The league features six teams, including one comprised of all-stars from Mexico.

White Sox officials will soon decide whether the Citizen Potawatomi tribal member will

stay in Tucson or report to the Advanced Rookie League in Bristol, Virginia.

Patten's parents, Ronnie and Sandy, have been to Arizona to see him perform. They report that he "is having the time of his life." Ronnie Patten said that Scott pitched two innings in a recent game and "did real well." Rookie League pitchers are limited to two innings per game.

Patten said that he advised his son to "grab this opportunity and have a good time."

The White Sox drafted Patten in the seventh round of June's amateur draft. He is a six-foot-three-inch pitcher/third baseman.

During his senior season for the Savages, Patten posted a break-even 6-and-6 won-lost record. However, Patten recorded a most impressive earned run average of 2.41 in his final high school season.

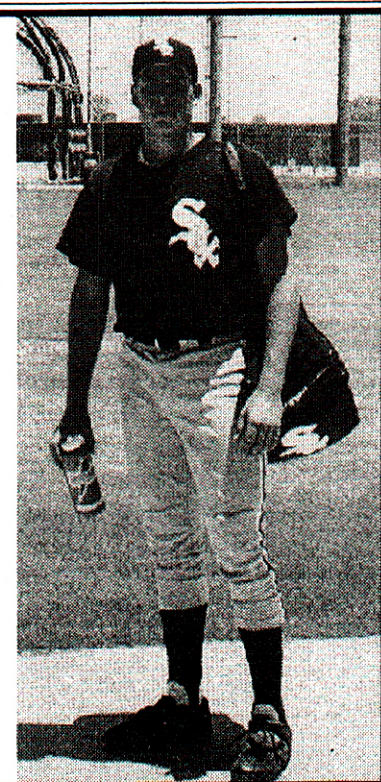
What really impressed the baseball scouts, though, is Patten's strikeout total. In 61 2/3 innings of pitching this past season, Patten fanned 123 would-be hitters. In baseball, an average of one strikeout per inning is very good. Patten averaged almost precisely two per inning.

Patten is what is known as a "power pitcher," one with a good fastball. Radar guns have timed his fastball at 93 miles per hour.

That is above average for Major League pitchers. Knowledgeable baseball folks will say that pitchers can be taught to throw change-ups, curves, and sliders. What cannot be coached, they say, is the speed that Patten possesses.

Patten is no slouch with the aluminum in his hands, either. In the 1999 season, he hit .410 and blasted 12 home runs.

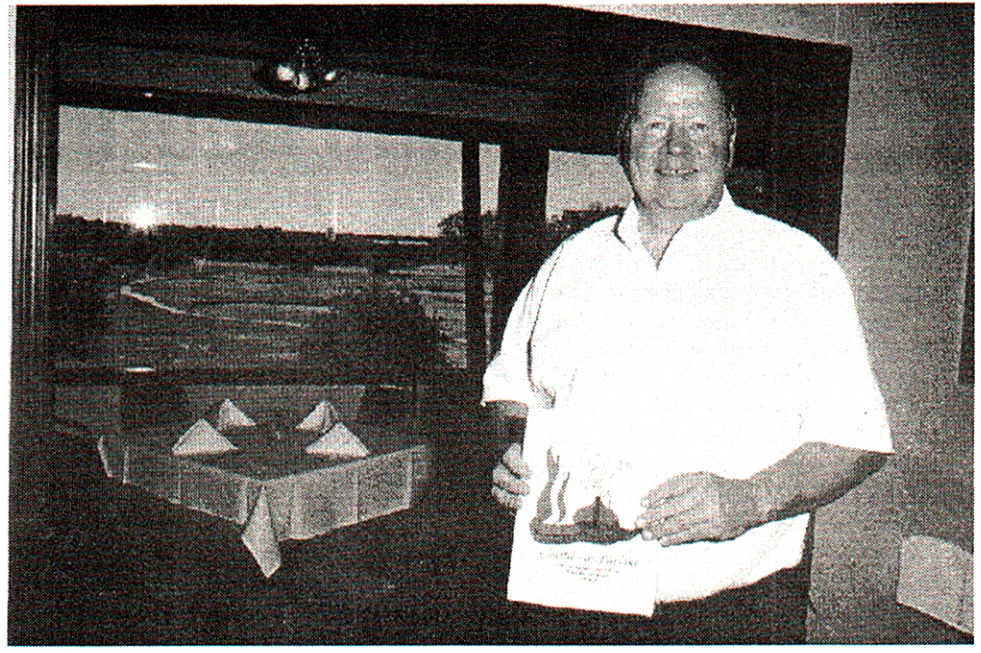
Patten had signed a letter of intent to play baseball at and attend Cowley (KS) County Community College. Recruiters from Oklahoma University, Oklahoma State University, Wichita State University, and Arkansas University had expressed interest in Patten.







**Coulon, Standing, Visits With Unidentified Customers On The Balcony Overlooking FireLake Golf Course**



**The Well-Known Area Chef Displays The Colorful Menu Which Offers Elegant, Unusual And Healthy Meals Of All Kinds**

## 'Live food' on the menu at popular FireLake Restaurant

By **APRIL WILKERSON**  
Shawnee News-Star  
Entertainment Writer

(Editors note: This profile of Charlie Coulon, who operates the Citizen Potawatomi Nation's FireLake Restaurant, appeared in the Sunday, May 16, 1999 edition of the Shawnee News-Star. The HowNiKan publishes the profile with permission and thanks to allow tribal members a look at what the Shawnee media is saying about an enterprise the Nation is very proud of.)

Charlie Coulon loves three things in life more than anything: eating, cooking, and talking about eating and cooking.

And, because that's been his life's work for the past 18 years, he's gotten pretty good at all three.

Coulon is the head chef at FireLake Restaurant between Shawnee and Tecumseh, and before that, he ran the Aldridge Cafe in downtown Shawnee. As much as he enjoys what he does, it's how his job affects others that gives him such satisfaction.

"The greatest privilege in the world is to serve," Coulon said. "All the people you look up to have been servers — servers of their communities or servers in other areas. I feel like I'm in the greatest business in the world because we serve people."

Coulon takes the food he serves quite seriously. Because his longtime waitstaff is dedicated to good and courteous service, Coulon is freed to focus

on food preparation, he said. That focus starts with the best "sourcing" — the highest-quality meats, cheeses, produce, and seasoning.

For example, FireLake cheeseburgers are made with ground chuck and Old English cheese, the finest of American-style cheeses, he said. The cost is several times more expensive per slice, but it's worth it.

"I start with the best product, then I do my thing," Coulon said. "It's a chef's job not only to design the menu but to provide you with a healthy meal. If you're going out to eat, you want something nutritious that also tastes good, and you want something balanced that will also satisfy you."

FireLake has a variety of meals on its menu. There's everything from burgers to salads and steaks to seafood. The salads that come with meals are generous, Coulon said, and feature the restaurant's homemade dressing. The house dressing is tomato-based and is quite low in calories. Also accompanying meals are FireLake's trademark homemade yeast rolls with strawberry jam and real butter.

Coulon cuts all the steaks he serves, trimming them free of fat. Among the many steaks are T-bones, ribeyes, KC strips, filets, and prime rib. He also cooks all food with fresh herbs and spices, when available. He grows and dries his own herbs or buys spices that haven't been exposed to X-rays.

It's the little things that count, Coulon said, and he

takes pride in doing every little thing right.

"We use the term 'live food' — if you start with the best you can get, the product you serve will be even better," he said. "If you start with second-rate food, you can't get there."

"I love perfection. I love for the customer to walk up to me and say, 'That's the finest steak I've ever eaten.' You can't get anything better than that."

FireLake also has a full vegetarian menu — and it's expanding. Roasted vegetables and whole wheat buns for vegetarian burgers are among the additions. Also available are dietetic meals that are cooked with a vegetable spray instead of oil.

Coulon uses the philosophy of treating every meal like an event. Each person's reason for being there — whether it's a birthday or a casual lunch — is equally important, he said.

Everything is cooked to order and served by a waitstaff that knows and cares about its customers. The restaurant uses a silent buzzer system that alerts waitresses when a meal is ready so it can be served immediately.

On the weekends, FireLake adds entertainment to its lineup. Music begins around 6 p.m., then, around 9 p.m., it really jazes up, Coulon said. A dance floor is available, and many couples make an evening of dining and dancing, he said.

A New Orleans saxophonist, Dino Baldini, is performing now from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. on Friday and Saturday nights. Other performers are singer John Kaiser, who specializes in '40s and '50s music, and pianist Lisa Schutten.

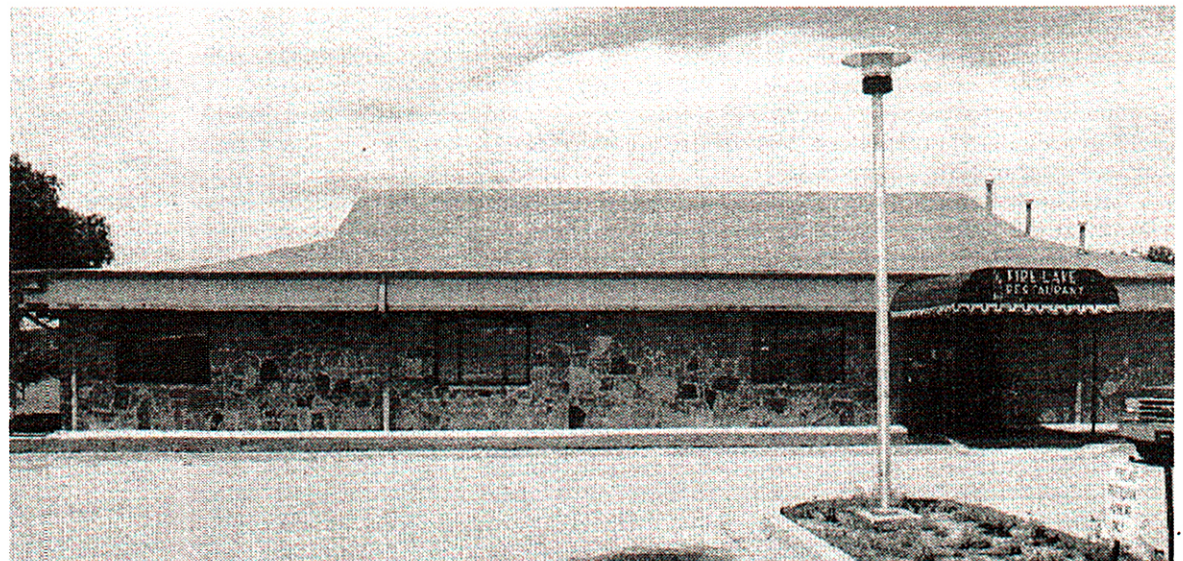
To top it off, FireLake has one of the best views anywhere, Coulon said. The north windows of the restaurant overlook

FireLake Golf Course.

Working as a chef has been Coulon's dream since he was a youngster and lived with his family in Washington, D.C. His parents were lobbyists and often entertained dignitaries with formal dinners in their home. Coulon said he would watch and help the chefs as they went about their work.

After working in the oil business for 18 years, he began cooking professionally in 1977. He probably owns every cookbook available, he said, and the learning process is ongoing. In fact, he recently finished taking another cooking class.

"When you've been cooking as long as I have and striving for this, when you attain some degree of it, it's quite rewarding," he said. "It's a dream come true for me to be here and have the business and customers I have."



**Exterior View Of FireLake Restaurant, Overlooking The Golf Course**



# Seed grant will grow into Potawatomi housing

In the sterling baseball movie "A Field of Dreams," a voice continually re-assured Kevin Costner's character that, "If you build it, they will come." There is a similar saying: "If you plant it, it will grow." That is one of the ideas at the core of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation's programs and business enterprises.

Recently, the Nation applied for a Seed Grant through the Department of Housing and Urban Development. This grant's purpose is to support innovative housing and economic development activities in rural areas.

The funds were awarded through a competitive selection process conducted by HUD in consultation with the United States Department of Agriculture. There were approximately 700 applications submitted; just 81 of the applicants earned grants. The Citizen Potawatomi Nation is one of Oklahoma's six grant recipients, with a total award of \$198,928.

The Nation will provide \$31,814 from its own sources, making a total project amount of \$230,742. The funds will be used to create a tribal mortgage loan department and housing authority branch at First National Bank and Trust Co.

The Nation will work with the bank to identify housing challenges and make affordable loans available to American Indians.

"The concept of establishing a one-stop mortgage program for prospective homeowners is a creative, innovative program that has not been undertaken before," said John "Rocky" Barrett, Citizen Potawatomi Nation chairman.

Linda Capps, Citizen Potawatomi Vice Chairman, said, "The Citizen Potawatomi Nation is taking the lead in making it possible for people to own their homes. This is the most accessible method for Native American families to grow wealth to use to send children to college, begin a business, or for any of a number of other very worthwhile purposes."

The Seed Grant will also provide funding for pre-purchase and post-purchase home ownership counseling, homebuyer education workshops, and financial counseling.

"There are many programs available now through the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Housing Authority — and many programs to come," said Robert Carlile, Housing Authority Director. "It is the Potawatomi Nation's desire to help tribal members who live both inside and outside the tribal jurisdiction."

Among the Housing Authority's offerings is **The CPN/PMI Initiative First Americans Mortgage Loan**. This "97% Loan" will assist families in becoming homeowners through the coordinated efforts of four agencies: PMI, First Americans Mortgage Co., Washington Mutual, and Freddie Mac. These companies will work together to help Native Americans qualify for loans.

The Potawatomi Nation Housing Authority will use its own money only as a supplement to help new homeowners cover closing costs. This program is available only to Citizen Potawatomi Nation members who are willing to buy, build, or refinance in the State of Oklahoma.

**The CPN Down Payment and Closing Cost Assistance Loan** is used in conjunction with the 97% Loan. The maximum loan amount is \$7,000 at 5% interest for five years.

**The CPN Down Payment and Closing Cost Assistance Grant** is for any CPN Tribal member in the United States and any Native American living within the Nation's tribal jurisdiction area. That area is from the North bank of the North Canadian River to the South bank of the South Fork of the Canadian River and from the Pottawatomie-Seminole County line to a line one-half mile west of the Indian Meridian.

The maximum grant amount is \$2,125. This is an effort to help Potawatomi tribal members who live outside the tribe's jurisdictional area and outside the State of Oklahoma.

In addition, offering the grants to other Native Americans who live within the Nation's jurisdiction helps the Housing Authority comply with regulations requiring providing service to all Native Americans in that area.

**The Home Program** still has available eight of its original thirty-five slots. The Home Program provides grants to qualified tribal members for as much as 50% of the cost of a house. In order to be eligible for the Home Program grant, the prospective homeowner must possess clear title to at least one-and-one-half acres of land, located within the Citizen Potawatomi Nation jurisdiction. This grant is for very low income or low-income Native Americans.

**The Home Rehabilitation Program** is designed to provide rehabilitation for single-family units that are owned by individual families. The Program requirements include membership in a Native American tribe, a household income of no more than 80% of median income, and title to the housing unit to be rehabilitated.

Families must sign a five-year payback agreement for the amount of the rehabilitation's cost. Insurance and interest costs are included in payback. The elderly (65 years of age and older) and handicapped/disabled persons will be excluded from payback requirements.

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation Housing Authority is pursuing all possible avenues for providing housing assistance to eligible families within the jurisdictional boundaries of the Nation. The mission statement of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Housing Authority is to provide tribal members with the opportunity for affordable, safe, and sanitary housing while building stronger, healthier communities and promoting economic independence for clients.



## Mystery Photographs

These two copies of old photographs were given to the tribe by Buck R. Nelson in the hopes that someone could identify them. If you think you know who they are, please contact Mary Farrell in Tribal Rolls.

## SUMMER SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

The following students were awarded the Tribal Scholarship for the summer semester:

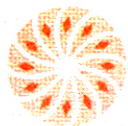
Margaret A. Dudley  
Carrie L. Malone  
Richard K. Swisher  
Rhonda J. Honeycutt  
Sheri I. Hanson  
Mary E. Tasier  
Paul A. Schmidtkofer  
Lora B. McHenry  
Cynthia D. Anderson  
Tara r. Ramos  
Brandy L. Hagood  
Jenny L. Affentranger  
Rebecca A. Hogan  
Brandi R. Morris  
Jerry E. Griffith  
Meredith E. Everett  
Jamie D. Talkmitt  
Michael D. Fox  
Gary D. Schoeman  
Tina J. Oglesby  
Rebecca J. Millner  
Koby S. Fleck  
Jennifer R. Fallis  
Kristen K. Hoggard  
Mike A. Hill  
Chris J. Stephens  
Shelli R. Baldwin  
Brandon J. Rennie  
Kelly E. Garrison  
Darrell A. Wilson  
Dustin T. Wilson  
Karreen N. Martin  
Angela Y. Cox

Conners State College  
East Central University  
Kansas City KS Area Vocational  
Pasadena City College  
Oregon Institute of Technology  
Oklahoma City Community College  
St. Gregory's University Ace Program  
Rogers State University  
OSU-Okmulgee  
Cameron University  
Murray State College  
Oklahoma Baptist University  
University of Central Oklahoma  
Oklahoma City Community College  
College of the Ozarks  
Seminole State College  
Texas Tech University  
University of Rhode Island  
UCLA School of Medicine  
St. Gregory's University  
Montgomery College  
Northern Oklahoma College  
Rose State College  
University of Oklahoma  
Emporia State University  
Oral Roberts University  
University of Arkansas  
Fort Lewis College  
University of Colorado Boulder  
Oklahoma City University  
DeVry Institute  
Allure Beauty College  
Metro Tech



Up to 19.99 .....	4.00
20.00 - 34.99 .....	5.00
35.00 - 49.99 .....	6.00
50.00 - ? .....	7.00





# HERITAGE FESTIVAL - JUNE, 1999



Is This Ashlyn Conklin Making Her Debut In The Ring? She Looks A Bit Uncertain.



Woody Carter Jr. And His Son Add Color To The Grand Entry



Tribal Archaeologist Lisa Kraft Glowed In This Beautiful Traditional Costume



Leslie Barichello Deer, Right, With Young Jingle Dancer Elaine Tiger



Zach Morris, Right, Not Only Danced But Led Some Heritage Classes



Southern California Regional Representative Jeremy Bertrand Finch Dances

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